

Application No.: 10/029,559
Amendment and Response dated March 28, 2006
Reply to Office Action of November 30, 2005
Docket No.: 760-232
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Remarks/Arguments:

Introduction

Claims 72-149 were pending. Claims 124-142 are allowable. Claims 83, 84, 97, 98, 100, 101, 120 and 121 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 83 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 72 and 74. Claims 72-74 have been canceled. Thus, independent claim 83 is in condition for allowance

Claim 75, 78, 79, 85-88, 90-91, 94, and 95 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 83. Claim 80 has also been amended to depend from allowable claim 83 and has also been amended to remove duplicative limitations currently stated in allowable claim 83.

Claim 97 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 72 and 96. Thus, independent claim 97 is in condition for allowance. Claim 96 has been canceled.

Claim 98 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 72 and 96. Thus, independent claim 98 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 100 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 72 and 99. Thus, independent claim 100 is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, claim 99 has been canceled.

Claim 101 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 72 and 99. Thus, independent claim 101 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 120 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 102, 113 and 119. Thus, independent claim 120 is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, claims 102, 113 and 119 have been canceled.

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Claims 103 -106, 108, 109, 111, 114, 116, 122 and 123 have been amended to depend from allowable independent claim 120. Claims 122 and 123 have also been amended for antecedent basis following the amendments to claim 120.

Claim 121 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 102, 113 and 119. Thus, independent claim 121 is in condition for allowance. Claims 150-166 have been added, and these added claims represent the above amended claims 103 -106, 108, 109, 111, 114, 116, 122 and 123, but depending from allowable independent claim 121.

Claims 143-149 are canceled.

In total, claims 1-74, 96, 99, 102, 113, 119, and 143-149 are canceled. Claims 150-166 have been added. Pending claims include 75-95, 97, 98, 100, 101, 103-112, 114-118, 120-142 and 150-166.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 75-95, 97, 98, 100, 101, 103-112, 114-118, 120-142 and 150-166 are in condition for allowance.

No new matter has been introduced with the claim amendments made herein.

Summary

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 83, 97, 98, 100, 101, 120, 121 and 124, and all claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct. This application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is therefore respectfully solicited.

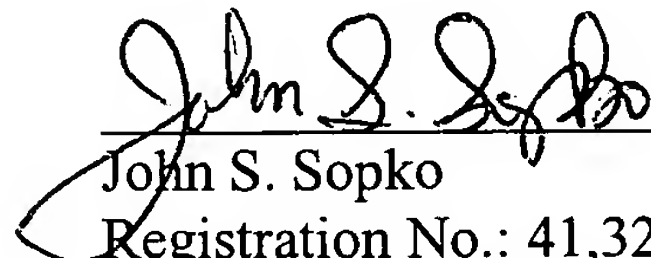
Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the above, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number given below.

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This application contains 8 independent claims and 80 total claims. Previous claim fees have paid for a total of eight independent claims and 78 total claims. Thus, a claim fee of \$100.00 is due for the addition of two total claims. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the additional claim fee of \$100.00 associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 08-2461.

Moreover, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-2461. Such authorization includes authorization to charge fees for extensions of time, if any, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 and also should be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in this reply or any future reply pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136.

Respectfully submitted,



John S. Sopko
Registration No.: 41,321
Attorney for Applicants

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP
6900 Jericho Turnpike
Syosset, New York 11791
(973) 331-1700